I do not know whether Mr. Rajiv Gandhi will follow his father's footsteps or he will choose his mother's footsteps. But I would expect Mr. Arun Singh to accept my proposal, this small suggestion of mine, and agree to set up a Parliamentary Committe. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhandare. You can start and then we will adjourn for lunch.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, I am a little sad when I rise to speak because I felt there were far more important questions which could be discussed, like the killings in Punjab, the agitation over Babri Masjid...

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: We have been debating. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Sir, may I continue afterwards? They are not allowing me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is now adjourned for lunch and we will meet again at 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at thirty minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-three minutes past two of the clock. **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

II. Regarding the incident of fire which damaged some of the units of the Directorate of Extension under the Ministry of Agriculture and a shed belonging to the Food Corporation of India on the 19th April, 1987, in Pusa Complex, New Delhi.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON) Sir, A fire broke out on 19-4-1987 at about 9.20 A.M. which damaged some of the units of the Directorate of Extension and a shed of the Food Corporation of India. The cause of the fire is being investigated and the extent of the damage is being assessed. Preliminary assessment indicates that the damage to property, other than the civil structures, maybe about Rs. 50.00 lakhs in the case of the units of the Directorate of Extension and about Rs. 1.36 lakhs in the case of Food Corporation of India. No injury or loss of life has been reported.

Senior officers from both the departments have yisited the site of the fire.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION ON PURCHASE OF GUNS FROM BOFORS OF SWEDEN — Contd.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Thank you, Sir. As I was just mentioning before the recess, there are very very more important questions and yet when I find that the opposition is insisting on raising this question into the merits of which I will go a little later, I tried to ask myself what is the reason for this. I look at the coincidences but I fail to be convinced that these are mere coincidences starting from Fairfax. Admittedly, it was the result of a fight between two industrial houses, a dog-eat-dog fight, which engulfed, unfortunately because of throwing in of a towel by a press baron, all the democratic institutions in our country. It engulfed the press, it engulfed the Government and it also engulfed the Members of Parliament and I had occasion to say that we must put a stop to this sort of our participation in private feuds.